

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01181 171217Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03  
/059 W

-----180231Z 079288 /13

R 171112Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3360  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 1181

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, LE, IS  
SUBJECT: FONMIN COMMENTS ON "DEFENSIBLE BORDERS"

1. ONLY OFFICIAL GOL REACTION TO DATE ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S  
PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENTS ON DEFENSE FRONTIERS HAS COME  
FROM FONMIN BOUTROS, SPEAKING TO JOURNALISTS MARCH 15, HE  
EXPRESSED BOTH CAUTION AND UNCERTAINTY.

2. BOUTROS, ACCORDING TO L'ORIENT-LE JOUR AND BAYRAQ,  
MARCH 16, SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE PRESIDENT'S STATE-  
MENT WAS A SERIOUS PROPOSAL OR "A PASSING NOTION, A WAY TO TEST  
OPINIONS, OR SOME OTHER METHOD IN USE IN WORLD DIPLOMACY."  
HE SAID HE HESITATED TO SPEAK OUT ON THE SUBJECT SINCE ARAB  
AMBASSADORS IN WASHINGTON HAD DECLARED THEMSELVES SATISFIED  
WITH US EXPLANATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT AND THEY  
SAW NO CHANGE IN BASIC US POLICY. HE THOUGHT THE VISITS OF  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESIDENT SADAT AND OTHER ARAB LEADERS TO WASHINGTON WOULD  
CLARIFY THE US POSITION.

3. ON THE SUBSTANCE, BOUTROS SAID IT WAS A QUESTION IN HIS  
MIND WHETHER IT WAS POSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "OFFICIAL  
FRONTIERS" AND DEFENSE FRONTIERS." COMMENT: HE DID NOT SAY  
SO, BUT FOR LEBANON THERE IS AUTOMATIC QUESTION AS TO WHETHER

ISRAEL WOULD PLACE ITS "DEFENSE FRONTIER" SOMEWHERE IN  
VICINITY OF LITANI RIVER.  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOUNDARY DETERMINATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BEIRUT01181  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770092-0727  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770351/aaaabsan.tel  
**Line Count:** 65  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** b8b309b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3084142  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FONMIN COMMENTS ON \"DEFENSIBLE BORDERS\"  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, LE, IS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b8b309b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009